

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 5 of the specification, at lines 8-16, please replace the existing paragraph with the following paragraph:

For hosts which do not natively produce polyketides, the enzymes that tailor polyketide synthases may be lacking or deficient, so that in addition to supplying the expression systems for the polyketide synthases themselves, it may be necessary to supply an expression system for these enzymes. One enzyme which is essential for the activity of PKS is a phosphopantetheinyl transferase. The genes encoding these transferases have been cloned and are available. These are described in U.S. Patent No. 6,579,695 ~~patent application 08/728,742, which is now published, for example, in Canadian application 2,232,230.~~ The contents of ~~these documents~~ this document are incorporated herein by reference..

On page 11 of the specification, at lines 3-9, please replace the existing paragraph with the following paragraph:

Further variability can be obtained by supplying as a starting material a suitable diketide. The diketide generally of the formulas such as those set forth in U.S. Patent No. 6,500,960, Serial No. 09/311,756 filed 14 May 1999 and incorporated herein by reference. A variety of substituents can then be introduced. Thus, the diketide will be of the general formula R'CH₂CHOHCR₂COSNAc wherein R is defined as above, and R' can be alkyl, 1-8C, aryl, aryl alkyl, and the like. SNAc represents a thioester of N-acetyl cysteamine, but alternative thioesters could also be used.

On page 12 of the specification, at lines 10-17, please replace the existing paragraph with the following paragraph:

The availability of these nucleotide sequences expands the possibility for the production of novel polyketides and their corresponding antibiotics using host cells modified to contain suitable expression systems for the appropriate enzymes. By manipulating the various activity-encoding regions of a donor PKS by replacing them into a scaffold of a different PKS or by forming hybrids

instead of or in addition to such replacements or other mutagenizing alterations, a wide variety of polyketides and corresponding antibiotics may be obtained. These techniques are described, for example, in U.S. Patent No. 6,558,942, Serial No. 09/073,538 filed 6 May 1998 and incorporated herein by reference.